

# Review of: "Responsible Governance of Genomics Data and Biospecimens in the Context of Broad Consent: Experiences of a Pioneering Access Committee in Africa"

Jaques van Heerden

Potential competing interests: No potential competing interests to declare.

The authors should be congratulated on achieving this monumental task.

Please consider the following comments:

1. The greatest threat to any project with long-term goals is sustainability. Please include some comments on the financial **sustainability** of the project as well as the strategy to increase contributors to the H3A catalogue?
2. Independent from the capacity building and resources provided to African scientists and research teams, can the authors describe the benefits to the **populations** who provide the samples that the applicants must illustrate in their requests?
3. Can the authors illustrate some of the **purposes** that the data was used for by applicants? Or expand on the criteria the H3A deems purposeful to share the data with?
4. The statement "...informally shared these data with their African collaborators directly..." is concerning. This is in breach of data sharing agreements. How is H3A approaching this problem?
5. Following on the previous comment, the reviewer suggests that the statement in the opening background "...such as ease of access..." should rather be: "... such as **responsible** access..." unless H3A should be easy and used without discrepancy?